

PARISH OF ORTON WATERVILLE

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting
Held at the Village Hall, Glebe Avenue, Orton Waterville, on
Wednesday, 18 April 2018 at 7.00 pm

Present: Cllr Elsey (Chair and Chair of the Parish Council), 9 electors and Mrs A Brown (Parish Clerk).

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllrs Goode, Howell and Proudfoot.
2. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 19 APRIL 2017 were read, approved and signed by the Chair.
3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – The Chairman gave his report, a copy of which is attached.
4. LOCAL MATTERS RAISED BY PARISH ELECTORS – No matters were raised.
5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS – There was none.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7:13 pm.

ORTON WATERVILLE PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman's Report 18 April 2018

1. Membership of Council

We welcomed Barry Warne this year, Barry having been co-opted onto the council, making a full complement of 13 councillors during the past 12 months.

Since last April out of a possible 11 meetings the average attendance has been 11 members.

Sadly, this year we saw the passing of Cyril Long, who was a well-respected parish councillor for some 43 years and 9 months. Cyril's knowledge and dedication will be sorely missed. In recognition of Cyril's service and dedication, the council has agreed to place a memorial bench in Cyril's honour at the foot of the village.

2. Council Community Volunteer

It was also regrettable that Paul Froggitt decided he was unable to continue as our community volunteer. Paul was a long-standing councillor when I first became a member of the Parish Council and despite our political differences; his counsel was greatly appreciated by me. Paul remains an active member of the parish and I wish him well for the future.

3. Working Parties

It was agreed by majority that the working parties were becoming onerous and cumbersome and that the business of the council would be better served by small working groups being set up for specific projects and disbanded subsequently, with the rest of the business debated and carried out through full council meetings.

4. Skate park

It was agreed through the council, that as Nene Park had no real appetite for a traditional skate park and as we are yet to find a more suitable location, that the project would be put in abeyance.

5. Speedwatch

Speedwatch is up and running. The approved 30mph locations are: Cherry Orton Road, Goldhay Way, Lady Lodge Drive, Lynchwood, Oundle Road and Wistow Way.

6. Parish Council Meetings

It was unanimously agreed by the council that to reach out to a greater audience within the parish, our meetings should be held at various locations during each year. Our March meeting was held at Ormiston Meadows Academy at Matley. Other suggested venues include: June meeting at Wistow Community Centre and October at Christ Church. These are still TBC.

7. Bulky Waste Collections

During the past year, the parish council adopted the city council initiative of community group sponsored bulky waste collections. These have been widely accepted and well used. Collections were held on: 29th April 22nd July 21st October and 24th February. This year so far, collections are due on 9th June and 6th October, with this year, participation from Orton Longueville parish council who are arranging collections in-between.

8. Waterville Ash Tree

This year, we regrettably saw the felling of the wonderful and historically significant ash tree on the corner of Cherry Orton Road. Removal is to be completed by the end of April this year. A new tree has been planted and some element of the tree will be retained in memorial to the wonderful specimen. The council have agreed to landscape the area and to place Cyril's memorial bench within the newly created area.

9. Resident's Survey

The parish council undertook a resident's survey in August and September this year and received 649 responses. The top three potential new services were 1. Employing a Lengthsman 60.9%, local market 45.8% and improving local green spaces 42.2.

10. Grants

Grants paid over the last fiscal year were: Orton Counselling Service £1,500 Orton Wistow Under 5's £500- Refurb of outside play area MAGPAS Air Ambulance £480- Flight suit for doctor Ormiston Bushfield Academy £4,500- Outdoor play equipment.

11. Burial Ground

St Mary's burial ground was officially closed in May 2017 for new burials and the parish council have agreed to assume responsibility for the on-going maintenance.

12. Cemetery

There have been 13 burials at the cemetery during the last year. The benches within the cemetery have all been refurbished.

13. Allotments

There is a waiting list in place for Cherry Orton Road and Gostwick. The new boundary fence has now been installed and erected at Cherry Orton Road. The new tenancy agreement has been drafted and awaits approval from the parish council, incorporating a deposit system.

The change in policy regarding more available time for bonfires has not to date caused undue complaints.

14. Crime & Anti-social Behaviour

During the last year there has been a serious outbreak of thefts from cars. This was due mainly to Paul Priestly, who after increased policing was caught and is serving time. Graffiti and fly tipping remains an issue and whilst dealing with this is generally not the Parish Council's responsibility, it is of concern.

15. Ponds

Peterborough conservation volunteers have renovated both Debdale Pond and Cherry Orton/Town Pond. Debris was removed and works carried out to trees, to allow light into the ponds. Both these initiatives were supported by parish councillors.

16. PCSO

PCSO Ivan Simonov has attended parish council and has made a commitment that wherever possible; he or one of his colleagues will attend future meetings.

17. Acquisitions

Peterborough City Council remains keen to pass on responsibilities for the 33 Community Centres they own. Consequently, a series of meetings have taken place in relation to the parish council taking on Orton Wistow Community Centre. A survey has taken place, which was not extensive or thorough enough so another has been sought. Negotiations continue.

18. Roller Hockey

The first parish council sponsored "most promising beginner" trophy was presented by the chairman at the roller hockey club's presentation evening. This is an annual award so will be presented by a representative of the council each year.

19. Gannocks Play Area

We are hopeful that once the planning inspectorate reviews our submission, the agreement will be in place for us to improve the green open space and the play area, with the introduction of additional play equipment and through working with The Wildlife Trust on the area management plan they devised on behalf of the parish council.

20. Future Developments

The main future development is the proposition for us as a parish council to learn from our neighbours and to devise and implement a Local Area Plan. This will give greater control to the parish council and its residents in terms of any future growth plans.

Summary

I would like to finish my report by thanking all members of the parish council for their help this year. Everyone has contributed to the business of the council and has also tried where possible to ensure regular attendance. It is through the diversity of the council that we ensure we best serve all our parishioners and ensure that the Orton Waterville parish remains a vibrant, pleasant and safe place to live and one in which we can all take pride.

Gavin Elsey

14 April 2018